

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing Amendment and passage to allowance are respectfully requested.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

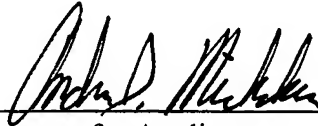
U.S. Patent No. 4,379,612
U.S. Patent No. 5,838,480
U.S. Patent No. 5,986,791
U.S. Patent No. 5,966,232
U.S. Patent No. 6,046,835
U.S. Patent No. 6,108,115
U.S. Patent No. 6,038,053
U.S. Patent No. 6,201,626
Japan 11-223784

These documents were cited in parent U.S. Patent Application No. 09/917,742, and might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given therein. The Examiner is respectfully directed to the Patent and Trademark Office files for review of these documents. See MPEP § 609. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of the attached form PTO-1449.

CONCLUSION

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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